TWO PETITIONS OF THE COUNTY OF YORKE.

The one presented to the Kings most Excellent Majesty at Yorke, the 3. of June, 1642.
The other to the Lords and Commons in Parliament Assembled.

Together with His Majesties Letter to the Lords of His Privie Councell of the Kingdome of SCOTLAND.

And a perfect Relation of the particular Passages at *Yorke*, on *Friday* the 3. of *June*, 1642.

Die Lunæ June the 6. 1642.

Ordered by the Lords assembled in Parliament, that these two Petitions, together with the Additions, bee forthwith Printed and Published.

John Browne, *Cler. Parliamentor.*

Printed for *Francis Coles*, 1642.

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty;

The humble Petition of the Gentry, Ministers, Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the County of Yorke,

SHEWETH,

THat this Particular County (most affectionate to your Majesties service) hath welnigh for three yeeres last past beene the stage whereon the tragicall miseries (which necessarily accompany and associate warre and Armies) have beene represented and acted, whereby the generall wealth and plenty of this County is exhausted and brought very low; which waight of miseries are sensibly become much more heavy, by reason of your Majesties distance in residence, and difference in Councels from your great Councell the Parliament, begetting great distempers and distractions throughout the Kingdome, and have especially amongst us produced factions and devisions; drawing to these parts great numbers of discontented persons, that may too justly be feared, doe affect the publicke ruine for their private advantage. All which evils are daily fomented and growne more formidable by your Majesties drawing together (as we conceive, not according to law) many Companies of the Trained Band and others, both horse and foot, of this County, and retaining multitudes of commanders and Cavaleres from other Partes, and by the daily resort of the Recusantes and persons disaffected in Religion to your Majesties Court at *Yorke*; and by the great preparations of Armes and other warlike provision, which begettes in us feares of warre, to the great terror and amazement of us your Majesties peaceable subjects, and the great decay of all commerce and industrious courses for the wealth and prosperity of the Country, specially of clothing, which is the maine substance of this County and is since your Majesties residence with us, and the following distractions, thereupon suddenly obstructed, insomuch that many thousand families whoare of, and have their livelihood by the Trade of Cloathing, are at the point of utter undoing; which inevitably will prove to be of dangerous consequence; and will be the inlet to our approaching and unavoydable ruine, unlesse your Majestie please graciously to give redresse, by removing the causes which produce these miserable effects: it being too true, that very many in these, and other parts of the Kingdome, doe wholy withdraw themselves from their former commerce and dealing, others, both Marchants, and Chapmen, doe now generally refuse to make paymonts for goods long since sould and deliver-

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ed, aleadging, that others refuse to pay them for any commoditie formerly sould; till the feares and distractions of the Land be setled, which if not suddenly prevented, will forthwith overturne all such wayes of advantage and comfort, as have formerly made this Kingdome (and this County in particular) prosperous and happy.

We doe therefore in all humility and duty, in the sence of our present deplorable condition; beseech your Majesty to pardon us, if we importune your Majestie more then others, since we have endured and are in hazard more then any: and that from these apprehensions wee may offer to your Majesty our earnest Petitions, for redresse, and prevention of these evils, daily threatning danger to your Majesty, and destruction to us, which we conceive is impossible any other way to be effected, then by your Majesties entertaining a right understanding betwixt your Selfe and Parliament; and affording your gracious eare and consent to such Councells and propositions, as shall be tendred by them to your Majesty, for the honour and greatnesse of your Majesty and Posterity, and the good of this Church and Kingdome; and by your Majesties declining all other Councells whatsoever, and uniting your confidence to your Parliament: And that your Majesty would in no way thinke fit to put us upon that rocke of dividing the duty we owe to your Majesty, your Parliament, and the whole Kingdome, (to which we are so deeply ingaged by our Protestation, which your Majesty, (to our knowledge) never dissented from, nor declared against) and that whilst your Majesty expects our performance in one part thereof, we may not (being equally engaged) impeach at all, or in the least degree, goe lesse then our duty in the other, which (we stand resolved off) by no meanes, either of feare or favour to be drawne to doe. And that your Majesty would take into consideration, that your Parliament being the supreame Judicatorie of your Kingdome, the very essence thereof must of very necessity be destroyed, if their Counsells and determinations be subjected to alteration, or reversall by the Counsells, or opinions of any private persons, how learned or judicious soever; and seeing your Majesty hath most graciously passed an Act that this Parliament shall not be dissolved, nor adjourned, without consent of your Majesty, and both Houses: We doe humbly beseech your Majesty, to take into your gracious and provident thoughts that nothing may be done tending thereunto; and that the Lords and great Officers now called hither by your Majesties Command, may speedily returne to the High Court of Parliament, whereby it may be evident to the World, that your Majesty intends not to decline

the Law ſo enacted; and that ſince your Majeſty hath graciouſly declared your confidence in the affections of this County, your Majeſtie would not thinke ie fit an extraordinary Guard ſhould be raiſed thereout, and the Cavaliers, and others of that quality ſtill continued about your Majeſty (as men moſt uſefull, and as if kept for ſome deſigne) they not having (for ought we know) either intereſt in, or affections to the publike good; their language and behaviour ſpeaking nothing but diviſion, and war, and their advantage conſiſting in that which is moſt deſtructive to others.

And laſtly, that ſince your Majeſty hath called int' is County to attend your Majeſty this day; your Petitioners doe moſt humbly ſupplicate that none either Cavaliers, or others (who in truth have not preſent fortunes in this County) may be admitted into any meeting this day, concerning the publike buſineſſe thereof; or hereafter into any preſent vote or conſultation when any further meeting may be, to prepare and conſider of ſome fit anſwer to what your Majeſty ſhall propound, we humbly conceiving it neither juſt nor equall (but a thing to bee proteſted againſt) that any whoſoever ſhould bee thruſt upon us, as men of this County, that are not either by their fortune or reſidence any part of us.

And now your Petitioners doe moſt heartily pray, that the God of Heaven, in whoſe hands are the hearts of Kings, would this day incline your Majeſties heart, ſeriouſly to conſider theſe preſent and emminent miſeries that this your Kingdome lyes under, in the peace whereof (viſibly under God conſiſts the preſervation of the Proteſtant Religion, the redemption of our Brethren in Ireland, and the eſtabliſhing of that Kingdome to your Majeſty and Poſterity, from thoſe deſperate and unparalel'd Rebels, that ſo your Majeſty might graciouſly grant theſe your Petitioners humble deſires which (whatſoever will be ſaid to the contrary) your Petitioners are well aſſured, would abundantly redound to the Glory of God, the honour and ſafety of your Majeſty, the good of your Poſterity, and the onely probable meanes under God, with peace and plenty, to make this your Kingdome happy, beſides the happy acquiſition of your Peoples hearts, the greateſt treaſure of Princes, all which will glorioufly repreſent your Majeſties lively portraiture, of him who is the fountaine of Wiſedome and Piety, to whom we ſhall ever pray for your Majeſties long and proſperous Reigne.

To the right Honourable, the Lords and Commons in the High Court of *Parliament* assembled.

The humble Petition of the Gentrie, Ministers, Free-holders, and other Inhabitants of the County of York, *assembled there at His Majesties Command, the third of* June, 1642.

WE being resolved humbly to petition His Majestie for the redresse of those grievances which we now lye under, did desire to have met in the Castle-yard at *York*, we conceiving it the fittest place to consider of such publike affaires as concerned the County, which we were not onely denyed off, but charge was given to the Officer there, that we should not have admittance; and when we assembled upon the place appointed by his Majesty, and did acquaint the County there met with the forme of a Petition, the sence whereof they formerly approved of, and then upon the reading thereof, generally consented to, and desired the same should be presented to his Majesty, we were violently interrupted by the Earle of *Linsey*, who with a great Troop attending him in an imperious way, snatched out of a Gentlemans hand of good quality, a Copy of the forenamed Petition, which at the desire of the Country he was reading to them, and some of his Lordships company laid hold of his Bridle and Cloake, hailing him in great fury, and said you are a company of traterous Rogues and Villaines, and often lifted up his Cane, as if he would have struck him. And also a Knight of this County was affronted by the Lord *Savile*, upon his reading the draught of a Petition to himselfe upon the place aforesaid, the day above: First, his Lordship told him it was a *Pamphlet*, which he denyed, thereupon the Lord *Savile* demanded it of him, which he refusing to deliver, his Lordship laid hands upon his Sword, and almost pluckt him from his Horse; upon which, the said Knight fearing some mischiefe would be done him, delivered the same: And then the said Lord *Savile* told him, he laboured to sow seeds of sedition, and if he would fight, there should be fighting enough, and many of the said Lord *Savile's* company held up their Canes at him, and one of them said, hold your prating, it were good to Cane you: Which provocations, had not the people beene peaceably enclyned, might have produced bloody effects. Notwithstanding all which, and diverse other insufferable Injuries, so confident were wee of His Majesties former professions, never to refuse any *Petition* presented by his people to him in an

humble way, that we desisted not to waite our best opportunity, to present the said *Petition* to his Majesty: (A Coppy whereof we here humbly present unto your grave considerations, which his Majesty notwithstanding pleased not to accept off.

We therefore humbly desire these Honourable Houses well to weigh these particulars, and to take such course therein, as may tend to the preservation of our Liberties, and the peace of the Kingdome. And that you would please to addresse your selves to His Majestie on our behalfe, that through your wisedomes our Desires may finde better acceptation with his Majestie.

And we shall heartily pray, &c.

Monday the 6. of June. 1642. *P. Merid.*

THe Lords and Commons observing not onely the *wisedome*, but the *affections* of the *County* of *Yorke* expressed in these *Petitions*, and likewise that they cannot be discouraged from their constant *fidelity* to the *Lawes* and *Government* of this *Kingdome*, which have their *Life* and being from the *Parliament*, have thought it fit to *declare* their good acceptations of their affections, assuring them that they will *interest* themselves in this Their Demands, which tends to the *honour* and *safety* of his Majesty, the peace of his Kingdome, and may prove an effectuall meanes to keep us from the desperate mischiefes those *Lords* that opposed this *Petition* would have brought this Kingdome into.

A Letter sent from the Kings Majesty to the Lords of His Privie Councell of the Kingdome of *Scotland*.

Charles R.

RIght trustie and wel-beloved Cousins, and Councelers, We greet you well. Although We have already written Our minde to you Our Councell; yet upon Our second thoughts, arising especially from some bad rumours, coming to Our knowledge, We find it necessarie both for Our Self, and for the good of that Our Kingdome, to declare, and make knowne both Our disposition and desires more fully. Wee know and feele the charge to be great, and the place to be high, wherein God (the King of Kings) hath placed Vs, and that

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We must render an account of all Our actions to him, who in his owne time shall judge all men without exception of persons. We have no other intentions, but by Our government, to honour him by whom Kings raign and to procure the good of Our people: and for this end to preserve the right and authority wherewith God hath vested Vs, and which by his providence hath been derived to Vs, by many Princely progenitors: in the which glory that Our ancient Kingdome, and native Realme of *Scotland* doth participate. We did not require of you, that you should sit as Judges upon the affaires of another Kingdome: Wee onely intended to have both Our sufferings and our actions, (as they are expresst in many papers past betwixt Vs and our Parliament) made throughly knowne unto you: that since We have none besides you whom We can acquaint with Our proceedings, you may clearly see that We have beene so farre from wronging Our Parliament of *England*, that We have given them all satisfaction, even above that which they themselves in the beginning did expresse, or almost desire: and as much as could wel consist with the safety of Our Person and Honour. We will not put you in minde of your naturall affection toward Vs, which we know will rather be kindled then extinguished by Our distresse: Nor of your Covenant, wherein you are zealous for Our greatnesse and Authority, and which standeth in that sense wherein you did sweare and subscribe it: Nor of the many good Lawes made in our late Parliament (of which We hope the present and succeeding generations shall reap the fruits, when We are dead and gone;) Nor of the many promises made to Vs, upon which We were willing to yeeld to such things for setling the government of that Our Kingdome, in Our personall absence, which neither could We have granted, nor would you have craved (as your selves did professe) had Our greater affaires permitted Our residence amongst you. And whereas We are most unjustly blamed and calumniated: 1. That We are popishly affected: 2. That We are the cause of the blood-shed in *Ireland*: 3. That we intend to bring in forraigne Forces: We here doe protest and declare in presence of him who knowes the most secret of Our intentions and actions, that Wee are no wayes conscious to Our Selfe of the guiltinesse of any of the said aspersions: and do take him to witnesse Our innocency therein, who onely hath the priviledge to be the searcher of hearts. And if any after so full and plain profession shall distrust this Our free declaration, We attest God, that the fault is in the malignity of their rebellious humours, & no wayes deserved on Our part.

Given at our Court at York, *the* 26. *of May* 1642.

A True and perfect Relation of the particular Passages at Yorke, on Friday the third of June.

His Majestie having summoned the Free-holders of the County of *Yorke*, to appeare before him upon *Fridaith Moore*, on the day above said, to satisfie them concerning his intentions, many of them did appeare together with a great multitude of Labourers and poore people, as also divers of the Inhabitants of the County of *Lancaster*, (all according to the estimate of my selfe, and divers others of judgment) about 10000. and upwards, they came not in any warlike way, nor put themselves into any posture or order, neither was the third part of the Free-holders and Farmers of Yorkshire there.

His Majesty had appointed 800 foot compleatly armed to guard his Person, and about eleven of the clock came to the Field or Moor accompanied with a great number of Lords and Knights of great quality.

The Prince also led a troop of Horse consisting of 250 Knights, Esquires and Gentlemen, some whereof had foure, some three, and most two men a peece, which made another troop.

As soone as his Majesty came neere the Moore, the people did entertaine him with a very lowd shout, and being come into the Moore, and as much silence made as could be, his Majesty made a speech, therein declaring his constancie in the Protestant Religion, and his great affection to that County, intimating that he resolved to reside amongst them in those parts to keepe the Countrey in peace. His speech being ended, he rode round the Moore, and about the number of 65000 followed him, crying all the way (God blesse the King) but the rest which were about 6000 all Free-holders separated themselves to Petition to his Majestie, and had their Petition ready to present to him the effect of it, was to desire of his Majesty to come to the Parliament, &c. but their Petition was intercepted by the Lord *Savill*, who carried himselfe very strangely in that particular, and in a forcible manner, suffered them not to deliver the same; his Majesty having rode round the field all the people brought him off the Moor with a great shout, & there many left him, but 20000 accompanied him to the Court gate, and saw him safe at Court, with a great shout.

A greate multitude of the people never came at the Field, but staid in the City, and others came but into the Moore, when the rest came out. And having thus made their appearance about eight of the clock at night all were returned out of the Field.

FINIS.